

Coffee House raises over \$10,000



By Linda Harrington

Words such as awesome, amazing, heartwarming and remarkable were used throughout the evening to describe the generous outpouring of community support at the Coffee House fundraiser for Brian Esau.

The Debert Fire Hall was bubbling with Christmas spirit on Dec. 9th, as hundreds filled the hall, enjoying the entertainment by local musicians Tim Bowers, Dean

Murphy, Kyle Miller and Ben Edwards.

Some of Brian's family was present and they expressed their gratitude to everyone. "The whole evening was very overwhelming. I am amazed by the generosity of everyone," said Art Hiebert, Brian's uncle.

Event organizers were extremely pleased with the turnout and the evening as a whole. "I've never been more proud of where I come from,"

said Colette Wylie. Another organizer Heather Ward said she was moved to tears when 50/50 draw winner Jonathan Millen donated his prize of over \$400 back to the event. "I love the people of Debert and surrounding areas - be proud of what you have done to make another person's life better," says Heather.

Many local businesses donated very nice prizes, which were raffled off, and dozens of community members dropped off delicious desserts and baked goods. The support from the women's hockey leagues was amazing.

An impromptu dessert auction at the end of the evening provided added excitement as auctioneer Larry Giddens encouraged "bidding wars" among those with a sweet tooth.

The event raised over \$10,000 to assist with equipment and expenses associated with Brian's recovery.

(A detailed interview with Brian appeared in the Dec. Issue of The Shoreline Journal. He sustained an incomplete C5 spinal cord injury in August, 2011.)



Felicia Rushton, left, Bass River and Maria Wood, Great Village shown following a recent Truro Skating Club test day. Felicia attained her Gold Level Interpretive and Maria Wood her American Waltz and Sr. Bronze Skills. (Submitted)

Colchester Trefoil Guild Notes

By Goldie Chisholm

Yes, Colchester Trefoil Guild member are still "Keeping the Spirit Alive" the past three months but your correspondent has not been doing her duty.

The September meeting was hosted by President, Jane Madden, at which time members paid their membership fees and ideas were brought forward for forthcoming meetings. It was agreed to hold future meetings in the Community Room in Sobey's on Robie Street.

A few members attended the Provincial Annual Meeting hosted by Dartmouth Trefoil Guild. Following the meeting a silent auction was held, as a fun activity, and in keeping with the celebration of our

Nova Scotia 100th anniversary, uniforms through the year were modeled. Although everyone enjoyed the uniform show, the real entertainment was a fashion show. A real fun day.

Our October meeting found us driving to the Hills of Annan Roach Hall, Tatamagouche, where Kay Mattattall and Frances Grant were our hosts. We enjoyed working on a craft - a plastic canvas coaster.

We were asked to bring a homemade gift to our November meeting as a gift exchange as this was our Christmas Party. We each made a Christmas craft. Our Provincial Trefoil Specialist, Darlene Duggan, joined us for this meeting. She asked

whether Colchester Trefoil Guild would be willing to host the Provincial Meeting in the spring. It was agreed we would do this if a suitable place could be found. This has now been arranged and the event will take place in Tatamagouche.

We will not be meeting until February 20th, when we will be celebrating "Thinking Day". There will be party games, prizes and a birthday cake with ice-cream.

As a service project it was decided to bring articles, such as toothbrushes and toothpaste as donation gifts to be given to the hospital to have on hand, when the need arises.

All Trefoil Guild members wish one and all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

\$20-Million Home Hardware Expansion

By Linda Harrington

The Minister of Environment, Sterling Belliveau has given written approval of the Environmental Assessment for the expansion of the Home Hardware Warehouse and Distribution Centre located in the Debert Air Industrial Park.

In a letter to the company's Head Office he states, "I am satisfied that any adverse effects or significant environmental effects of the undertaking can be adequately mitigated through compliance with the attached terms and conditions." The minister continues to add this approval is subject to any other approvals required by statute or regulation, "including but not limited to, approval under Part V of the Nova Scotia Environment Act (Approvals and Certificates section)."

The proposed expansion is required to increase warehouse space at the Lancaster Crescent site of Home Hardware Warehouse and Distribution Centre in order to satisfy increasing shipping and receiving volumes, and to improve the efficiencies within the facility.

The three phase project is expected to begin in April, 2012 with work completed on Phase One by November, 2012. This Phase will involve clearing and grubbing the lands, installing underground utilities, demolishing part of an existing structure and building a new 140,000 sq. ft. warehouse space.



Phase 2 of the project would involve the construction of an additional 90,000 sq. feet of new warehouse space, immediately following the completion of Phase 1.

During construction, the existing transfer truck entrance would be relocated from the east to west side.

Phase 3 would involve the construction of a 40,000 sq. ft. repair garage and the demolition of the existing garage. This phase is expected to be completed within five years of the completion of Phase 1 & 2.

The expansion will add 230,000 square feet to the existing 360,000 square feet, with a total budget expected to be in excess of \$20 million.

Harvey Gullon, manager of the Debert Distribution Centre, says he is very pleased to see the project finally moving forward. "It has been a long time coming, we have been planning this for over 5 years and it has taken a while to get through the hurdles. It is good to get down to the short strokes," he says.

Mr. Gullon says the next step is to meet the conditions set forth, and with no road blocks, they hope to begin work on the expansion in April.

District 9 County Councillor Bob White is pleased things are finally moving forward, as well. "There has been hurdle after hurdle, which has been frustrating for sure. This is fantastic news for one of the biggest employees in the Debert area. The expansion will be a huge benefit to the county as a tax base but also to existing and future employees. They are a great company to work for and most people who go there to work, retire from there."

This will be good news for local construction contractors and suppliers, as well. When asked about hiring local contractors to work on the expansion, Gullon responded, "Oh yes, we always like to hire local as much as possible."

The Home Hardware Warehouse & Distribution Centre in Debert Air Industrial Park currently has 215 full time employees, with 50 to 60 support staff, including students and term workers. Gullon says they hope to be adding more jobs in the future, "With an expansion of 230,000 square feet, we expect to eventually need to hire more workers, but not at this time."

Onslow Belmont Notes

By Debbie Weatherby

This year at Trinity United Church, the Christmas service will be Saturday, Christmas Eve at 7:00 P.M. There will not be a service on Christmas Day, Sunday, January 1, there will not be a morning service, but rather, an evening service at 7:00 P.M. New Year's Day with Communion. This service will mark the second anniversary of Trinity United Church. All other Sundays - worship is at 10:00 a.m. with Sunday School.

Services are held every Sunday at the Trinity United Church in Onslow at 10:00 a.m. with Sunday School at the same time. There is card playing of 45's every Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. with lunch and prizes provided. Everyone is welcome to come out for an enjoyable evening. Trinity is at the corner of Meeting House Road and Onslow Road. All are welcome at any of the services.

Belmont Baptist church

services are held every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Prayer meeting is held Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m.

Condolences go out to Michelle Smith (Trevor) of Belmont and the families on the loss of her father George Ernest Johnson on Nov. 26, 2011.

I now have 6 months in of not smoking and am trying to figure out why I started in the first place and why I didn't quit sooner. Hasn't been as hard as I thought it would be but there are still times when I get the urge to light up but it passes. My friend Debbie and I went to a support group through addiction services and what a great help they were. I would recommend it to anyone who is trying to quit. They're very supportive. Also attending acupuncture and that is helping as well. So am certainly determined to stay smoke free for the rest of my life.

Wow, talk about geese, the other day in the corn field it

was just covered and I mean covered and more coming. I have never seen that many geese in one place before and it sure was a sight to behold let me tell you.

Not sure how anyone else feels but am loving this weather. The older I get, the more I dread the snow in my line of work. Snow is nice but just a little please, LOL. Christmas concerts are on the go now and kids and parents are enjoying them. From years gone by of attending them I can imagine they were all just wonderful with some laughs from the little ones. They are so cute and entertaining. The kids will soon be on Christmas vacation so please be careful as you are driving and the kids be careful while outside at play.

Once again Merry Christmas to everyone and hope Santa finds you all and remember to celebrate Christ's birth. Until next time take care and feel free to contact if you want anything to appear in here at 662-2425.

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